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PP RUEHAG RUEHAST RUEHBI RUEHCI RUEHDBU RUEHDF RUEHIK RUEHLH RUEHLN
RUEHLZ RUEHPW RUEHROV RUEHVK RUEHYG
DE RUEHAH #1206 3110801
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 070801Z NOV 07
FM AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9664
INFO RUCNCLS/ALL SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA COLLECTIVE
RUCNCIS/CIS COLLECTIVE
RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE
RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA 2949
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 0769
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 0645
RUEHIT/AMCONSUL ISTANBUL 1222
RUEABND/DEA HQS WASHINGTON DC
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC
RHMFIUU/CDR USCENCOM MACDILL AFB FL
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
RUEHVEN/USMISSION USOSCE 1869

UNCLAS ASHGABAT 001206

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

STATE FOR SCA/CEN, INL,
DUSHANBE FOR DEA
MOSCOW FOR DEA
ISLAMABAD FOR DEA
ANKARA FOR DEA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [SNAR](#) [TX](#)

SUBJECT: TURKMENISTAN DESIGNATES WORKING-LEVEL
COUNTERNARCOTICS CONTACT FOR DEA

REF: A. ASHGABAT 0904

[1](#)B. ASHGABAT 1043

[1](#)1. (SBU) Sensitive but unclassified. Not for public Internet.

[1](#)2. (SBU) The Ministry of Foreign Affairs sent a diplomatic note to the Embassy on November 6 responding to an October 3 U.S. request for a working-level contact with whom the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) could liaise on counter-narcotics leads requiring especially urgent action (Ref. A). The ministry designated Police Major Chary Bashimovich Geldiev (office: (993-12) 39-06-27 and 38-87-07), Head of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Anti-Drug Trafficking Department, as DEA's point of contact.

[1](#)3. (SBU) COMMENT: This is another positive step forward in the new bilateral relationship, since for years DEA, like other U.S. government agencies, has been forced to go through the MFA to communicate with the Turkmenistani government. It demonstrates Turkmenistan's growing recognition that the counternarcotics problem here is serious enough that the government must work more closely with international, including U.S., counterparts.

[1](#)4. (SBU) COMMENT CONTINUED: We encourage DEA agents in the region to consider making another visit to Ashgabat, for introductions to Geldiev and to build on previous meetings, including the good progress made by joint DEA and Department of Justice International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program (ICITAP) (Ref. B). END COMMENT.
HOAGLAND